

Message Text

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64

ACTION STR-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03

LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02

SS-20 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 FEA-02

OMB-01 SAM-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /200 W

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R 191855Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8068

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 02196

PASS STR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, US, UK

SUBJECT: ARTICLE XXIV:6

REF: (A) STATE 31587, (B) LONDON 1545, (C) LONDON

2065

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH REF A, WE RAISED ARTICLE XXIV:6
ON FEBRUARY 18 WITH MARTIN LAM (UNDER SECRETARY, DEPART-
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MENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY), WHO WILL BE THE SENIOR UK

REPRESENTATIVE AT THE APRIL 20 DINNER FOR THE MEMBERS
OF THE 113 COMMITTEE.

2. LAM ASSURED US THAT HE WILL SPEAK UP CLEARLY AT
THE DINNER IN FAVOR OF AN IMPROVED EC OFFER, AND HE
WILL INDICATE THE SPECIFIC IMPROVEMENTS THAT THE UK,
FOR ITS PART, WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE, ALONG THE
LINES DESCRIBED IN REFS B AND C.

3. THE BRITISH CONSIDER THAT SOAMES HAS DONE THE JOB
OF RESISTING FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS IN THE EC OFFER "TOO
WELL." THEY FULLY APPRECIATE THE URGENCY OF THE NEED
FOR THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE A POSITIVE MOVE AT THIS TIME.
THEY BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT EVEN IF ALL SIDES WERE
WILLING, THE COMMUNITY -- WITH ITS CUMBERSOME INTERNAL
PROCEDURES -- WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO WORK OUT ALL THE
DETAILS OF A FINAL SETTLEMENT IN TIME FOR THE MARCH
4-5 COUNCIL' THEY POINT OUT THAT THE COMMISSION IS
DUE TO MAKE A FORMAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL ON THIRD
COUNTRY REACTIONS TO THE EC'S DECEMBER OFFER. THE
COMMISSION COULD MAKE THIS REPORT ON MARCH 4-5, AND
COULD THEN STATE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE
SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED IF THE COMMUNITY IMPROVED ITS
OFFER ON CERTAIN ITEMS AND MADE A STATEMENT ON GRAINS
ROLLOVER' THE MINISTERS COULD THEN AUTHORIZE THE
COMMISSION TO CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS BASIS.
THE BRITISH ARE PUSHING HARD FOR A COUNCIL DECISION OF
THIS KIND. THE FIRST STEP, THEY POINT OUT, IS TO GET
SOAMES TO RECOMMEND THAT THE COMMUNITY'S OFFER SHOULD
BE IMPROVED.

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